

The purpose of the hearing, entitled Power Generation Resource Incentives & Diversity Standards, is to receive testimony regarding ways to encourage the diversification of power generation resources. Issues to be discussed include: Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) efforts among states and the cost and benefits of a federal RPS program. New approaches to promoting a variety of clean power resources, such as wind, solar, clean coal technology and nuclear power, will also be considered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at 10 a.m., to hear testimony on "Physician-Owned Specialty Hospitals: In the Interest of Patients of a Conflict of Interest?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on the Black Sea Strategy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, March 8, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. on "Judicial Nominations." The hearing will take place in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226. The tentative witness is attached.

Agenda:

PANEL I: Senators.

PANEL II: Thomas B. Griffith, of Utah, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing to examine and discuss S. 271, a bill which reforms the regulatory and reporting structure of organizations registered under Sections 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 8, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8 at 10 a.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 179, to provide for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest, California, and for other purposes; S. 213, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain federal land to Rio Arriba County, New Mexico; S. 267, to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and for other purposes; and S. 305, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to recruit volunteers to assist with or facilitate the activities of various agencies and offices of the Department of the Interior; S. 476, to authorize the Boy Scouts of America to exchange certain land in the state of Utah acquired under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act; and S. 485, to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Terrorism and the EMP Threat to Homeland Security," on Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Panel I: Dr. Lowell Wood, Commissioner, Congressional EMP Commission, Livermore, CA; Dr. Peter Pry, Senior Staff, Congressional EMP Commission, Washington, DC; Dr. Peter Fonash, National Communications System Deputy Manager (Acting), Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent Alison Thompson, a Marine fellow on Senator DOLE's staff, be granted privileges of the floor for the duration of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 539

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 539) to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide the protections of habeas corpus for certain incapacitated individuals whose life is in jeopardy, and for other purposes.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, and after consultation with the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 106-286, appoints the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: The Senator from Nebraska, Mr. HAGEL, Chairman; the Senator from Kansas, Mr. BROWNBACK; the Senator from Oregon, Mr. SMITH; the Senator from South Carolina, Mr. DEMINT; and the Senator from Florida, Mr. MARTINEZ.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 74, submitted earlier today by Senators BIDEN, CLINTON, LUGAR, KOHL, and others.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 74) designating March 8, 2005, as "International Women's Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Today, March 8, is International Women's Day. This day provides a special opportunity for us to reflect on the status of women throughout the world and to think about what we can do to improve the health and well-being of some of the world's most vulnerable women.

Today, I would like us to think about Uganda, where I sat on a porch with mothers who were HIV-positive. These mothers were gathering scrapbooks, photos, notes, and little memorabilia of their lives to leave to their children. Their children, playing in the yard, had already lost one parent, and were now about to lose a second.

I would like us to think about South Africa, where I saw women waiting for hours on wooden benches, inside a clinic made from old rail cars, in the hope that they might be sick enough to qualify for antiretroviral treatment for HIV.

And, I would like us to think about Bangladesh, where I saw women who had known nothing but poverty, but who, thanks to a tiny loan, had become entrepreneurs. They were offering cell phone service to their villages, made possible by their ownership of a single, solar-powered cell phone.